

Special Issue on Agri-biotech Studies from Policy and Regulatory Perspectives: Editorial Notes

Guest Editors: Brad Gilmour, Hugh Dang, and Jennifer Ma

Since the idea of a special issue related to agri-biotech policy and regulatory studies came into mind, we have received support from a number of well-known experts. Without their support, this special issue might not be produced. At the initial stage, we consulted this idea with Dr. Juma Calestous from Harvard University. Dr. Calestous encouraged us by writing that “it would be excellent to have a special issue focusing on policy, regulations, and institutions.” We then brought this idea to consult with Professor Peter Phillips. Professor Phillips carefully considered this by helping us to work on the call for papers. During the review period, Dr. Lar Brink, a respected expert formally with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, actively helped us by referring a number of experts in the field.

When this project was established, we conducted a “call for papers” and set a submission deadline of May 31, 2014. After all submissions were received, we carefully selected eight papers. All accepted papers continued through a peer-review process, including an internal and external review. While the internal review is assured by the guest editors and/or advisers, the external reviews were completed by the invited reviewers with proven expertise in the field of the article. This special issue involved the authors, reviewers, and other experts from

a number of countries and regions, such as Brazil, Canada, China, European Union, Hong Kong, India, Japan, and the United States.

Accepted manuscripts entered both internal and external review process. Each manuscript was reviewed by at least two well-established internal and/or external experts in the field. The authors and reviewers carefully revised and reviewed papers one or two additional times. Based on all peer-review reports, the guest editors had finally reviewed each manuscript with a collaborative assessment and decision for submitting to the journal. Some manuscripts, such as China’s (with debatable issues), were sent to the advisers for further reviewing and assessing.

By taking this opportunity, we appreciate both Professors Peter Phillips and Nicholas Kalaitzandonakes and their teams for providing us with such a well-known platform, *AgBioForum*, to present the research findings. The opinions expressed in this special issue are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher and relevant partners, as well as the guest editors. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate, we do not accept any liability for error of fact or opinion present.